

Aviation Warrant Officer Education

What is it?

Aviation Warrant Officer (WO) Education is an integrated system of schools preparing the aviation WO for increasing levels of responsibility and assignments throughout their career. The different levels of education are the Warrant Officer Basic Course (WOBC), the Warrant Officer Advanced Course (WOAC), the Warrant Officer Staff Course (WOSC) and the Warrant Officer Senior Staff Course (WOSSC).

What has Aviation WO Education done?

The purpose of the WOBC is to certify WOs as technically and tactically competent to serve as WOs in a designated specialty. Each branch of the Army that has WOs conducts their own individual basic course. Army Aviation is among the most challenging of basic branches because of the technical and tactical subjects that a student has to master and the highly demanding course of flight instruction.

The WOAC focuses on advanced technical training and common leader development subjects designed to prepare officers for assignment in CW3-level positions. The course focuses on branch-specific advanced training, but also has a component common core mandated by the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). Like the WOBC, individual branches administer the WOAC.

The WOSC is four-week professional development course. This course prepares WOs of all branches to perform in CW4-level positions. This branch immaterial program of instruction is administered by the Warrant Officer Career College (WOCC). The instructors for this course are drawn from across the Army, providing a diverse perspective.

The WOSSC is a two-week course attended by the Army's most senior WOs. This course, also administered by the WOCC, prepares the officer for senior levels of assignment at the CW5 level across all branches.

What continued efforts does Aviation WO Education have planned for the future?

Army Aviation will continue to update course material within the branch courses as newer tactics, techniques and procedures are developed. Army Aviation always looks for the edge; we succeed in the total spectrum of operations because of our Soldiers and our technological advantages. We continually update our programs, incorporating instruction on the latest systems both within our branch and those branches we support.

Why is this important to the Army and Army Aviation?

Army Aviation WOs fall into two basic categories: the Aviation Technicians and the Army Aviators. The technicians possess specialized knowledge in areas such as Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), Aviation Maintenance and Airspace Management. Army Aviators are in the unique position of forming the bulk of the primary Warfighters within the branch. They are at the tip of the sword.

The importance of Army Aviation's impact on current operations would be difficult to overstate. From transporting personnel and equipment, resupplying units in the field, to providing security and close combat fire support, Army Aviation is an important combat

multiplier across the entire battlefield. Ensuring Army Aviation WOs are trained and prepared for this high level of responsibility remains one of our branch's top priorities.

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